

SENATE BILL 595

By Hensley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8;  
Title 38 and Title 49, Chapter 4, relative to the  
education of law enforcement recruits.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-944, is amended by adding the  
following language as a new subsection (l):

(l)

(1) Subsections (b) through (k) do not apply to the award of Tennessee  
reconnect grants under this subsection (l).

(2) As used in this subsection (l):

(A) "Basic law enforcement training academy" means a  
Tennessee peace officer standards and training commission certified  
basic training program operated by an eligible postsecondary institution;  
and

(B) "Eligible postsecondary institution" means a two-year public  
postsecondary institution.

(3) To be eligible for a Tennessee reconnect grant under this subsection  
(l), a student must:

(A) Not be ineligible for the grant under § 49-4-904;

(B) Have been a resident of this state as required by § 49-4-  
905(a)(1); and

(C) Be admitted to an eligible postsecondary institution and  
enrolled in a basic law enforcement training academy operated by the

eligible postsecondary institution, and the course of study at the basic law enforcement training academy must consist of at least four hundred eighty (480) classroom hours.

(4) A student may receive the Tennessee reconnect grant under this subsection (l) until the student has completed the basic law enforcement training academy's course of study.

(5) A student who has an approved medical or personal leave of absence from a basic law enforcement academy may continue to receive the grant upon resuming study in the basic law enforcement academy so long as the student continues to meet all applicable eligibility requirements.

(6) Subject to amounts appropriated by the general assembly, the amount of a Tennessee reconnect grant under this subsection (l) must not exceed the eligible postsecondary institution's cost of tuition and mandatory fees charged to students for the course of study at the basic law enforcement academy.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to students seeking a Tennessee reconnect grant on or after that date.